

## House Resolution 5 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY JACOBY

1 A Resolution designating the first Saturday of October,  
2 annually, as Ostomy Awareness Day.

3 WHEREAS, an ostomy is a type of surgery that creates  
4 an opening in the abdomen that allows for the removal  
5 of bodily waste into an ostomy pouch on the outside of  
6 the body or a surgically created internal reservoir  
7 when a person has lost the normal function of digestive  
8 or urinary systems due to various medical conditions  
9 or injuries; and

10 WHEREAS, approximately 725,000 to 1 million  
11 Americans have an ostomy, with approximately 100,000  
12 new ostomy procedures performed each year; and

13 WHEREAS, ostomy or continent diversion surgery  
14 can occur at any age and does not lower life  
15 expectancy; and

16 WHEREAS, Americans needing these surgeries are  
17 becoming more aware of opportunities for education,  
18 mutual aid, advocacy, and support that are of great  
19 benefit to them and their families; and

20 WHEREAS, the state is committed to increasing  
21 public understanding of ostomy and to dispelling  
22 fear of this surgery, reminding the public that this  
23 is a life-saving procedure, and supporting public  
24 education to ensure those who are living with ostomy  
25 face no discrimination and are accepted as healthy  
26 individuals; and

27 WHEREAS, to increase public acceptance of ostomy  
28 surgery and continent diversion surgery and to

1 help Iowans better understand that ostomies are  
2 life-savers; NOW THEREFORE,  
3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
4 That the House of Representatives designates the first  
5 Saturday of October, annually, as Ostomy Awareness Day.